

# **2013 FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT**



## **ANNUAL REPORT**



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**Honorable Mayor Steve Olson**  
**Members of the Common Council**  
**Members of the Police and Fire Commission**  
**Citizens of Franklin**

The year 2013 again brought significant change to the Franklin Fire Department. Following the significant turnover in 2012, the department had to fill several vacant positions. While the loss of an employee with a wealth of firefighting and EMS knowledge and experience negatively impacts the Department in the short term, each new “cub” that is hired as a replacement brings a unique set of ideas, skills, and life experiences that ultimately makes the department stronger and more effective in the long term. Also, as newly-promoted officers take charge of new projects and responsibilities, and bring fresh perspectives on leadership, the Department continues to improve.

In 2013, FFD again saw a record increase in emergency call volume, for the first time topping 3500 calls for service. Call volume is now increasing at rate of over five percent per year. As this number continues to increase, it becomes more difficult for the Department to meet its other obligations such as training, response pre-planning, and performing company inspections. FFD staff continues to explore new strategies to meet those objectives, and “adaptability” is a core characteristic of the Department and its individual members. However, creativity cannot serve to compensate indefinitely. The FFD is short-staffed by most applicable industry standards, and as Franklin’s population continues to grow and age, we fall further behind that curve. Franklin Fire Department’s current staffing levels need to be reevaluated in the very near future.

Despite these challenges, FFD has continued to meet core strategic goals and has been able to implement programs and policies designed to improve operations, while enhancing safety and efficiency. The Department strives to provide an “all hazards” response, as the Fire Service is constantly presented with new challenges and must rapidly adapt and evolve in order to address new dangers. Quite simply, there is often no one else to call.

As Fire Chief, and a life-long resident of Franklin, I am extremely proud of our Department and its members. It is this collection of professional, caring individuals that makes the organization successful. The service they provide is truly second to none.

Respectfully,

Adam J. Remington  
Fire Chief

**Mission:**

The mission of the Franklin Fire Department is *to save lives, prevent harm, and protect property* - by providing a skillful, professional, and compassionate response to any emergency. We will strive to keep the community and each other safe. We will act at all times with *Courage, Honor, and Integrity*.

**Vision:**

The Franklin Fire Department will be a model for efficient operation and effective response to all emergencies.

- We will work within the community to protect and enhance the lives of our citizens and visitors.
- We will work cooperatively with our partners in other agencies to improve emergency services on a local and regional basis.
- We will employ industry best practices and strive for continuous improvement in all that we do.
- We will lead by example and will be a source of pride and a force for positive change within the community.

**Statement of Values:**

We value **Respect**. We will at all times display respect for our customers, our peers, and for each other.

We value **Innovation**. We are professional problem-solvers; our creativity and ingenuity are the most important tools that we can wield.

We value **Excellence**, both collectively and individually, and will strive for it in all that we do.

We value **Integrity**. We recognize that our citizens are the reason for our existence, and that the trust the public places in us is hard-earned and easily lost. We will honor that trust by acting at all times with honesty and integrity.

We value **Teamwork** and **Cooperation**. Together we are stronger, smarter, better.



### **Elected Officials:**

<b>Mayor:</b>	Thomas M. Taylor
<b>Alderman 1<sup>st</sup> District:</b>	Mark A. Dandrea
<b>Alderman 2<sup>nd</sup> District:</b>	Daniel M. Mayer
<b>Alderman 3<sup>rd</sup> District:</b>	Kristen Wilhelm
<b>Alderman 4<sup>th</sup> District:</b>	Steven F. Taylor
<b>Alderman 5<sup>th</sup> District:</b>	Doug Schmidt
<b>Alderman 6<sup>th</sup> District:</b>	Ken Skowronski

### **Fire and Police Commissioners:**

<b>Chairman:</b>	Robert Donohoo
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	John Nelson
<b>Commissioner:</b>	David Lindner
<b>Commissioner:</b>	Sandy Maher-Johnson
<b>Commissioner:</b>	James Sass

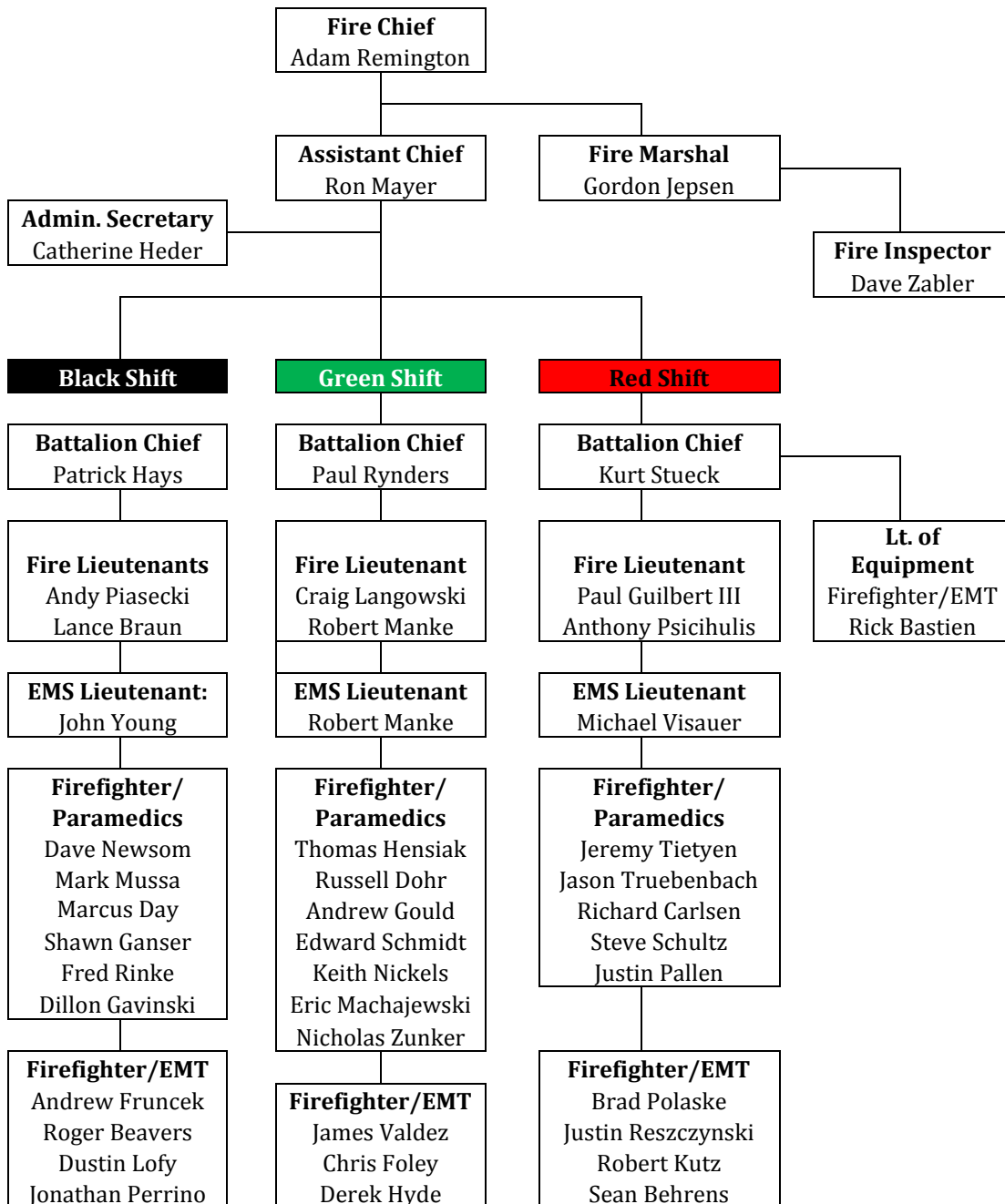
### **2013 Promotions and Retirements:**

Chief James Martins	Retired (December 2012)
Lt. Joseph Strelka	Duty Disability
Adam Remington	Promoted: Fire Chief
Ron Mayer	Promoted: Assistant Chief
Paul Rynders	Promoted: Battalion Chief
Robert Manke	Promoted: Fire Lieutenant
Anthony Psichulis	Promoted: Fire Lieutenant
Robert Kutz	Hired: Probationary Firefighter
Dustin Lofy	Hired: Probationary Firefighter
Nicholas Zunker	Hired: Probationary Firefighter
Derek Hyde	Hired: Probationary Firefighter
Jonathan Perrino	Hired: Probationary Firefighter
Sean Behrens	Hired: Probationary Firefighter



## Department Organization:

Franklin Fire Rescue is a full-service fire department, staffed 24 hours per day, every day of the year. The department consists of 42 shift employees divided into three platoons or "shifts." The Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, and Fire Marshal work a regular 40 hour per week schedule, but also respond for fire alarms and other emergencies at all hours. The Administrative Assistant is also a full-time (M-F) employee. The Fire Inspector is a part-time contracted employee normally working 18 hours per week.







## **Staffing by Fire Station:**

The Franklin Fire Department provides advanced (paramedic) and basic emergency medical services, and fire suppression to a resident population of 35,520, in a geographical area covering 34.5 square miles. FFD has a minimum staffing of 11 personnel on duty per day (24/7), and operates out of three fire stations. Personnel and equipment are distributed as follows:

### **Fire Station #1 (8901 W Drexel Ave)**

#### **5 Personnel:**

**Officer In Charge** (1 Person)

**1 BLS Ambulance** (2 firefighter EMTs)

**1 ALS/BLS "Med" Unit** (2 firefighter/paramedics)

**Engine 1** (Cross-staffed when one or both ambulances are in quarters)

\*Station #1 also houses Tender-1 (water tanker) and the Technical Rescue Team



### **Fire Station #2 (9911 S 60<sup>th</sup> St.)**

#### **2 Personnel:**

**1 ALS/BLS "Med" Unit** (2 firefighter/paramedics)

**Truck 2** (Cross-staffed when ambulance is in quarters)

\*Station #2 also houses Engine 2, the grass/brush fire response truck, and the Survive Alive public



### **Fire Station #3 (4755 W Drexel Ave)**

#### **4 Personnel:**

**1 BLS Ambulance** (2 firefighter EMTs)

**1 ALS/BLS "Med" Unit** (2 firefighter/paramedics)

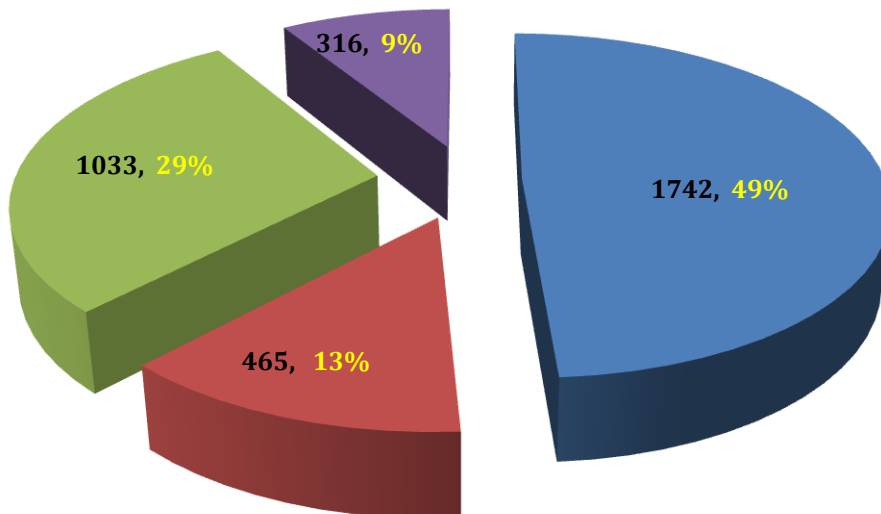
**Engine 3** (Cross-staffed when one or both ambulances are in quarters)

\*Station #3 also houses Ambulance 4 (reserve), Car 3 (dive rescue response vehicle).



### **2013 Run Volume by Fire Station**

■ Station One ■ Station Two ■ Station Three ■ Mutual Aid



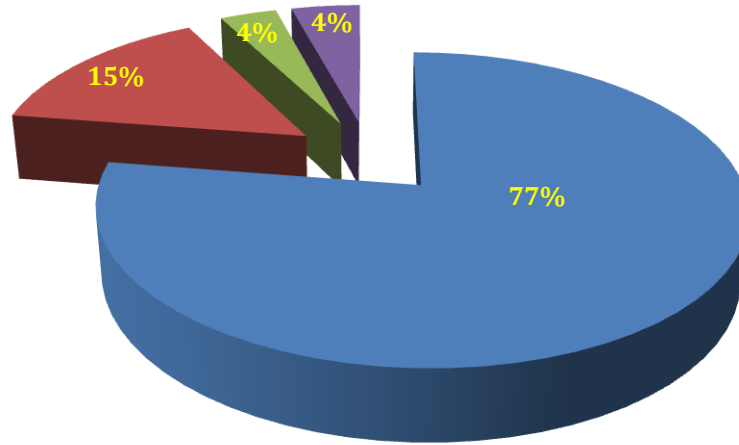




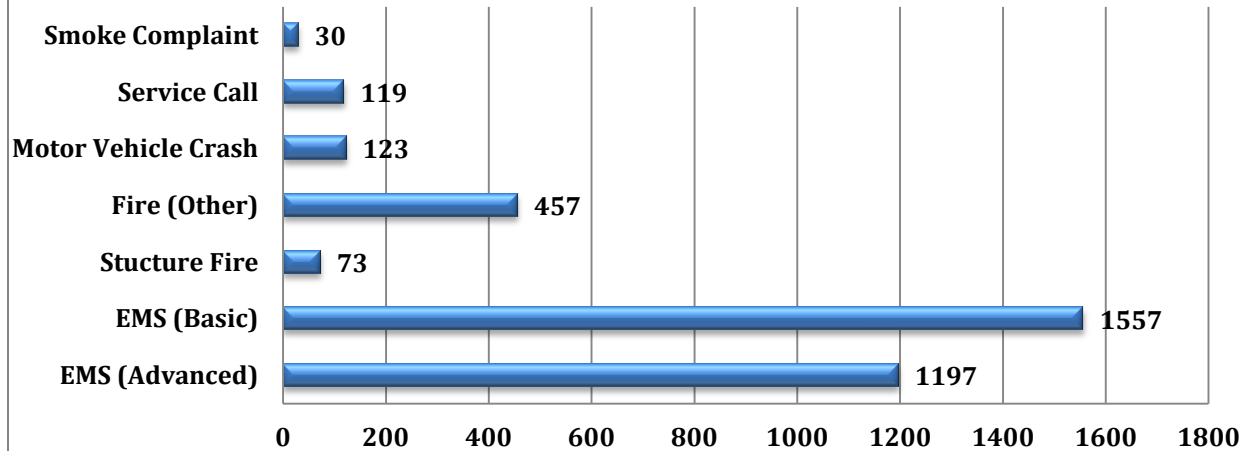
## 2013 Call for Service Statistics:

### Total Department Activity 2013

■ EMS ■ Fire ■ Motor Vehicle Crash ■ Service/Other

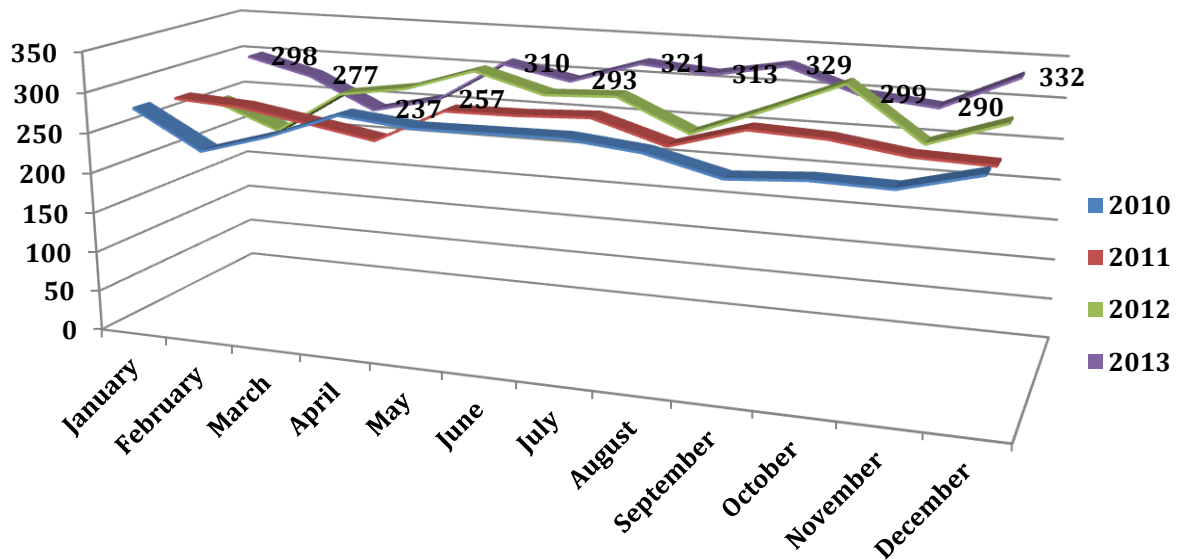


### Response Volume by Type of Call-2013





### 2013 Calls for Service by Month



**Left:** FFD crews "make entry" at a working structure fire.



## **Bureau of Emergency Medical Services:**

For fire departments that also provide emergency medical services (EMS), responses for EMS-related calls typically comprise between 70 and 90% of annual “Call for Service” volume. In 2013, 77% of FFD’s call volume was EMS related. All personnel on the Department are licensed by the State of Wisconsin as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). The vast majority of are actually licensed to provide a higher level of care as an EMT-Paramedic. Additionally, every emergency response vehicle, whether fire engine, ambulance, or command vehicle, is equipped to provide some level of on-scene medical care.

### **Basic and Advanced Life Support**

FFD provides both “Basic Life Support” (EMT) and “Advanced Life Support” (paramedic) level response, treatment, and patient transport. The Department staffs two BLS ambulances. BLS units are staffed by a minimum of two firefighter/EMTs, with initial training of approximately 180 hours. EMTs must also attend continuing education throughout the year order to maintain their licensure.

FFD currently has an ALS ambulance stationed at each of the city’s three fire stations. ALS ambulances are able to treat the most serious patients, essentially “bringing the Emergency Room to the patient”. FFD’s firefighter/paramedics operate within the scope of the Milwaukee County EMS System (MCEMS), and will respond outside of city boundaries, when requested. (More on the Milwaukee County EMS System can be found at: <http://county.milwaukee.gov/EMS> ). FFD firefighter/paramedics can initiate intravenous access, give medications, and insert a breathing tube into a patient’s trachea to assist in ventilation. Paramedics can administer and interpret 12-lead ECGs, allowing them to diagnose and treat cardiac events. They go through approximately 1,800 hours of initial training, and must attend periodic refresher and continuing education classes in order to update their knowledge and skills, and stay atop constantly changing trends in medical science and practice.

### **Tiered Response Model**

An ambulance call can range from a simple “help up” call to assist an elderly or disabled resident, to a full cardiac arrest or a multiple-patient trauma incident. FFD uses a “tiered response” triage and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system to ensure that the resources that respond are appropriate for the severity of the reported illness or injury, and that the closest available unit is dispatched to the call. Dispatchers screen 911 calls as they come in, asking relevant questions in order to determine what level of care is required. Generally, BLS units are dispatched for less-serious calls, keeping ALS units available for truly life-threatening emergencies.



Often, FFD personnel are asked why two ambulances respond for many EMS calls. Usually, the closest available BLS unit responds along with the paramedic ambulance unit for an ALS-level dispatch. This is because most ALS (and many BLS) responses require more than the two personnel normally assigned to a single ambulance, in order to properly treat the patient and prepare them for transport.

Regardless of the type of call that they are dispatched on, FFD paramedics and EMTs work together seamlessly and with the highest degree of professionalism. The most serious medical calls, such as a cardiac arrests, require teamwork and coordination. Each team member has a particular job to do and function to perform, and many procedures must be done quickly and simultaneously if the patient is to have a chance at survival. In the period of 2009 through the end of 2013, the Franklin Fire Department had the highest success rate in the MCEMS system for “saves” of patients in cardiac arrest, with nearly 20% surviving and being discharged from the hospital. The Milwaukee County EMS System is rated as one of the top EMS systems in the country, and the Franklin Fire Department takes great pride in its paramedics and EMTs and in the level of EMS care that they provide on a daily basis.

### EMS Continuing Education

In 2012, Milwaukee County EMS went to a web-based continuing education module, essentially using interactive teleconferencing technology to replace classroom sessions. This allows all continuing education to be conducted entirely on-duty while still meeting the strict educational standards of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. County-wide, this educational model has reduced overtime costs by hundreds of thousands of dollars. In 2012, FFD also began combining EMT and paramedic refresher sessions. EMTs can attend the teleconference sessions along with the paramedics, or are allowed to view recorded versions at a later date. The result is that the EMT’s training content more closely mirrors that of the paramedics that they work with in the field every day, and better prepares them for the challenge of attending a paramedic training program in the future. This practice continued in 2013, and likely for the foreseeable future. The following is a sample of the minimum biannual training requirements to stay certified as a paramedic :

Advanced Medical Assessment	4.0 hours
Advanced Trauma Assessment	4.0 hours
Airway	2.0 hours
Pharmacology	2.0 hours
Venous Access and Medication administration	2.0 hours
Cardiology	2.0 hours
12-lead Interpretation	1.0 hours
OB/GYN	1.0 hours
Operations	2.0 hours
Weapons of Mass Destruction Preparedness	2.0 hours
Pediatric Medical/Trauma Assessment	8.0 hours
<u>Flexible Content</u>	<u>18.0 hours</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.0 hours</b>



## **MCEMS Studies and Trials**

The Franklin Fire Department and MCEMS participate in research in order to further enhance the quality of care delivered and to improve outcomes for the citizens of Milwaukee County. In 2013, Milwaukee County EMS and the Franklin Fire Department continued their participation in the National Institute of Health (NIH) sponsored Resuscitation Outcomes Consortium – more commonly known as the “ROC” studies. The stated goal of the consortium is to continuously “study the impact of promising clinical interventions on survival for patients with severe traumatic injury and cardiac arrest”. As of 2013, FFD continues to participate in following arms of the ROC studies, which will extend into 2014, and possibly beyond:

- **Continuous Chest Compression (CCC)**  
This study compares traditional CPR (repeated cycles of 30 compressions, followed by two ventilations) to a continuous chest compression model (CCC). This CCC model prioritizes chest compressions over the need for immediate advanced airway and frequent ventilation. Evidence suggests that greater blood pressure to the blood vessels feeding the heart muscle is associated with a better return of spontaneous pulses in the cardiac arrest patient. Interruption in chest compressions - in order to ventilate the patient or perform other procedures – has been shown to reduce this pressure. This study will be ongoing through 2014.
- **Amiodarone/Lidocaine/Placebo (ALPS)** This study examines the efficacy of the anti-arrhythmic medications Lidocaine and Amiodarone (versus a placebo) during attempted resuscitation of cardiac arrest patients. Cardiac arrest may be caused by disruption of the internal electrical impulses that cause the heart muscle to contract (and therefore “beat” on its own). These medications are thought to regulate and stabilize the heart’s electrical activity. Until researchers could establish that CPR was effective in circulating blood through the heart (through CCC study above), they could not be certain which medication was more effective, or even whether either was more effective than a placebo. This study will run through 2014, and further similar studies are likely.

## **Training with Wheaton Franciscan Hospital Emergency Department**

The Franklin Fire Department enjoys a strong working relationship with Wheaton Franciscan Hospital -Franklin. In spring of 2013 FFD personnel were again invited to join Wheaton Franciscan Emergency Department for in-hospital training sessions. Pre-hospital healthcare professionals (first responders) and hospital professionals have different experiences but often need to possess the same skills sets and similar certifications and continuing education requirements. Department paramedics and EMT’s had the opportunity to train with Physicians and RNs using a SIMs Manikin. The life-like manikin



allows the hospital to prepare staff for real patients, allowing students to practice skills such as intubation, IV placement, and medication administration, as well as patient assessment. These training sessions were offered over three consecutive days, allowing all personnel to learn and train while on-duty. FFD would like to thank Wheaton Franciscan-Franklin and its staff for this highly valuable training opportunity.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Visauer, Paramedic Lieutenant

**Right:** Med 283, a 2013 McCoy-Miller Type I ambulance. Med 283 responds out of Station #3, and is equipped and staffed as a paramedic (ALS) ambulance.







## **Bureau of Training and Operations:**

### **Cross Staffing**

Department personnel are often asked what “the Engine Guys” are doing while the paramedics and EMTs are busy handling all of the EMS/ambulance calls. In reality, all fire apparatus are “cross-staffed” by the ambulance personnel assigned to that fire station. For example, at Station #3, there are two paramedics assigned to Med-283 and two EMTs assigned to Ambulance 3. If they are dispatched for a non-EMS related call-for-service (i.e., any type of fire, natural gas leak, smoke or carbon monoxide investigation), Station 3 personnel would leave their ambulances in quarters, and respond in Engine 3. This type of staffing was formerly unique to FFD and a few other departments in the area; however, as larger fire departments face budget cuts and staffing reductions, the “cross-staffing” model is becoming more common. While cross-staffing is cost effective, the disadvantage to this system is that with EMS call volume rapidly increasing, there is greater potential for a fire station to be empty or understaffed for a fire alarm because personnel are busy handling EMS calls.

### **Training in 2013 was focused on the following primary operational objectives:**

1. Enhancing safety for firefighters and survivability for fire victims.
2. Continued emphasis on enhancing the Department’s technical rescue capabilities to in order to address current and future life-safety hazards.
3. Addressing modern and evolving hazards, (i.e., “hybrid” vehicle extrication techniques, response to “active shooter” events, lightweight building construction, etc...)
4. Meeting fire and EMS training objectives while maintaining response-readiness.

FFD personnel train on a daily basis. The range of subject matter that firefighters are responsible for knowing is constantly evolving. Modern construction techniques pose significantly greater risks for firefighters than the traditional construction materials and methods of 30 years ago. These hazards include increased toxicity and combustibility of smoke products due to increased use of synthetic building products, and increased danger of structural collapse due to use of inexpensive “lightweight” construction of floor and roof support members, to name just a few examples. Vehicle design and construction is also evolving rapidly, and although much safer for the vehicle occupants in a collision, they pose hazards for first responders – including delayed discharge of airbags, high-voltage hazards inherent in hybrid and electric vehicles, and new fuels such as ethanol that cannot be extinguished by traditional means.



The modern fire service encounters these challenges in the field on a daily basis, and must always be aware of “what’s next” in terms technology, materials, engineering, and construction.

Trainings range from short “quick hit” trainings, in which a crew or station may get together to familiarize themselves with a new tool or technique; to full-day, multi-company, multiple evolution trainings scenarios involving several departments.

The vast majority of informational or background knowledge training is conducted through the web-based training portal (called Target Solutions) that the Department began using two years ago. The platform lets firefighters log-in individually and access training classes while in their stations, rather than all personnel assembling for a group training at a single location. This keeps units in service and in their station’s primary response area. Nearly all Department EMS training is conducted in this manner, and while there are several advantages to the system, fire/EMS personnel still need frequent “hands-on” trainings to remain proficient in both fire end EMS related tools and techniques.

Time management, and balancing training requirements against other daily duties and obligations is an increasing challenge, both for FFD, and for the modern fire service in general.

In recent years, FFD trainings have focused on the challenges presented by the increasing multi-story apartment complexes in the city – in particular, high-density senior housing such as Brenwood Park, Clare Meadows, and the Woods complex. In 2013, FFD continued to conduct full-scale fire drills at some of these locations. Fire crews from FFD and neighboring departments performed simulated fire attack while simultaneously evacuating or “sheltering-in-place” participating residents. FFD personnel also participated in joint fire drills in neighboring communities. The Department plans to continue these fire drills on an annual basis.

FFD personnel and command staff also participated in a full-scale mock aircraft crash incident at General Mitchell International Airport. Fire departments and many other emergency management agencies from throughout the region participated.

The Department also took advantage of a vacant acquired structure on S. 27<sup>th</sup> Street. FFD staff conducted several search and rescue and fire attack drills within the structure over a two week period. The training scenarios culminated in joint “live fire” training with several other area departments.

### **Nozzle/Hose Replacement**

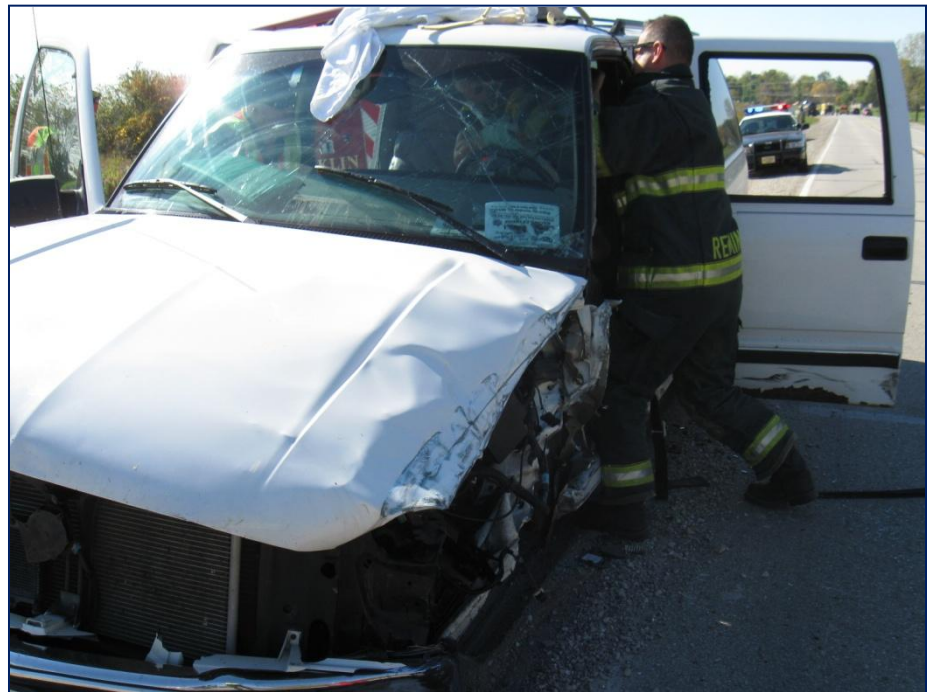
Last year, the Franklin Fire Department transitioned back to smoothbore nozzles on all attack hoselines. Smooth-bore nozzles produce a solid water stream, offering greater reach



and penetration, and greater water flow capacity at lower pump pressures. The nozzles also produce less nozzle reaction, making them easier to handle and advance for firefighters. They are also far less expensive and are virtually maintenance free when compared to fog or combination nozzles.

During the process of testing and evaluating the new nozzles, Department personnel noticed widely fluctuating flow rates – in some cases a fraction of the expected flow rate for a given size and type of hose. The primary attack hoses were over 20 years old, and some sections were badly degraded. The Department tested several brands of hose, evaluating them for rate of flow, ease of deployment, and cost. The Department requested, and the Common Council approved budgeting for replacement of all attack hoselines in 2013. All primary fire attack hoses were replaced in early 2013 – significantly improving flow rates and enhancing safety. In 2014, the Department intends to budget for the replacement of 2-1/2 inch hose. This hose is used both for fire attack and water supply.

**Right:** FFD personnel work to treat and extricate a driver at a motor vehicle accident. FFD responded to over 120 motor vehicle accidents in 2013.





## **Technical Rescue Team (TRT)**

### **Team Background:**

The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) was first formed in 1998 as the Confined Space Rescue Team that included participation from the 4 Zone-D fire departments. The Confined Space Rescue Team was formed due to the inherent dangers that are associated with confined space and technical rescues. National statistics show that six of every ten deaths involved with technical rescues are would-be rescuers. These would-be rescuers include both other workers on site and Fire Department personnel.

In 2011 the team re-organized the existing confined space team into a more capable “all hazard” technical rescue team. Team membership was also expanded to sixteen members. Extensive training added the specialties of high/low angle rescue, trench/excavation rescue and equipment/machinery rescue to its’ original scope of confined space rescue.

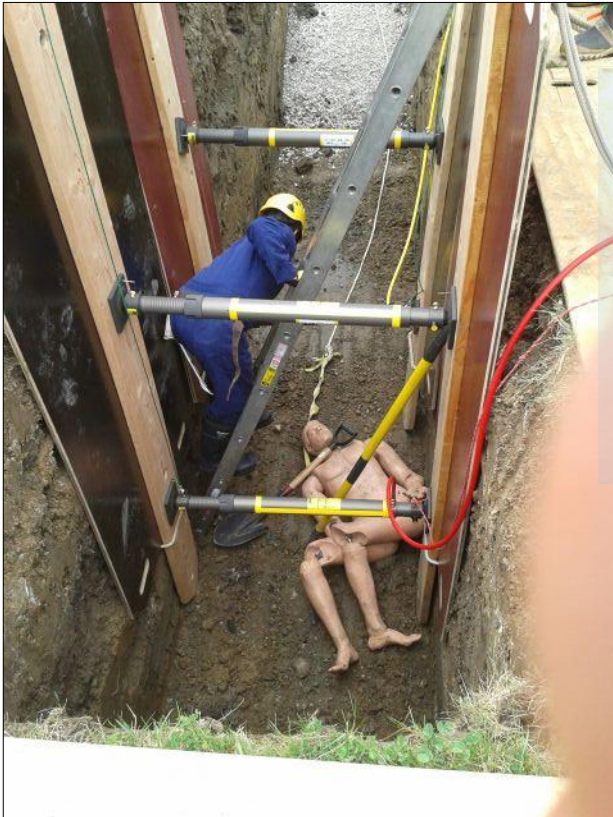
Currently members of the TRT plan and train jointly throughout the year preparing for the special risks and challenges associated with technical rescues. There are no private entities that are able to safely perform rescues in the multiple arenas that the TRT is trained and capable of working under. This unique ability of the TRT makes it an economic and efficient way to provide rescue services without an extensive delay from another agency. TRT members maintain their skills knowledge and abilities on a day to day basis. Having select members of the department trained in specialized rescue lends their expertise and problem solving skills to the day to day operations of the Department. These individuals are leaders, and provide resources even on incidents that may not warrant a TRT response. The experience and training that TRT members bring to the Department enhance even routine incidents. This team provides highly and technically trained personnel that extend the capabilities of fire-rescue and medical response to confined space rescue, high angle/low angle rescue, trench/excavation rescue and heavy equipment/machinery extrication. The team responds to mitigate both natural and man-made disasters on a local and mutual aid/MABAS level.

As of 2013 all other Zone-D participating Departments have concluded their participation with the TRT. Franklin Fire Department and its’ 16 member roster are currently the only participants. This new change has given the FFD the ability to operate in a way that better fits our training schedule. In 2013 there were 6 large scale scenario based trainings. These trainings involve many logistic and scheduling hurdles. With the training schedule set for 2013, all of the trainings continued on to aid in consistency. 2014 brings the TRT to a new year of only FFD participation. This change will allow the FFD to have the TRT members complete self guided monthly training modules that will build skills to be drilled on at the next large scale training. This new format will allow the TRT members to have more hands on time scenario based experience at the large scale trainings



### 2013 Team Accomplishments:

- All members of the team have been successfully certified to the technician level for trench rescue.
- In an effort to take on the additional responsibilities and enhance the capabilities of the Technical Rescue Team is continuing to conduct trainings with the Oak Creek Fire Department and other departments in MABAS Division 107.
- A larger focus has been placed on in the area of machinery and equipment rescue. Members are trained and prepared for industrial accidents that occur within the team's response area.
- The members of the TRT are evenly distributed between the three duty shifts of the department. This disbursement allows for a better chance to have a TRT member responding to an incident to aid in the recognition of special hazards, advising for the activation of the TRT, and setup of the initial operation prior to the TRT full response.



**Left:** Department Technical Rescue Team member performs a trench rescue of a simulated victim. All TRT members achieved Technician Level certification in 2013.

### Short Term and Immediate Goals:

- To provide a reliable, dedicated and properly equipped Technical Rescue Team for the City of Franklin
- Endeavor to continue joint trainings with other communities in MABAS 107.
- Continue to train new members to the technician level in special rescue operations
- Continue training at the Metro landfill, as this is a new and expanding target hazard
- Develop monthly drills that members can execute while on shift. This is in an effort to keep the skills of members fresh during the times between large scale trainings.





- Find funding for a replacement supplied air breathing apparatus (SABA) used for confined space rescue in atmospheres that are immediately dangerous to life or health. The previous system has now past its end of life stage.
- Secure funding for equipment purchases. Much of the equipment has reverted back to the Greendale FD as they were the initial purchaser. Existing equipment owned by the FFD is nearing the end of its serviceable life and needs replacement

### Long Term Goals:

- Franklin's goal is to have all members certified to technician level in at least four different facets of technical rescue within three years.
- Maintain funding for continued education courses and trainings for team members.
- Increase the frequency and regularity of large scale trainings.
- Conduct a community risk assessment for other potential rescue incidents that may require the specialized skills and equipment of other facets of technical rescue.
- Consider expanding the types of incidents the Team will respond to.

Respectfully Submitted,

Battalion Chief Paul Rynders, Technical Rescue Team Commander

**Right:** Mutual Aid companies from Greendale, Hales Corners, and Oak Creek arrive at the scene of a working structure fire. They are dispatched automatically at the "Working Still" alarm level.







## Dive Squad



The department began sponsoring SCUBA training for volunteer Dive Squad members in 2010. Franklin Fire Department now has 12 members that are SCUBA certified and capable of initiating an underwater search within minutes of receiving a 911 call. The department continues to maintain four complete sets of gear, allowing back-up and safety divers to also suit up. The full-face

masks that the squad uses allow for wireless voice communication with the surface, enabling a safer and far more effective search operation.

SCUBA diving requires continuous training throughout the year in order to maintain proficiency. Throughout 2013 Squad members continued to perform training dives in multiple local ponds and lakes. This allows members to pre-plan of some potential rescue sites. By pre-diving these sites the Squad can gain knowledge about water depth, clarity, access points, and any specific hazards that may be present below the surface. Divers also performed pool dives at both Franklin and Whitnall High School pools throughout the winter months in order to maintain proficiency.

A potential submersion incident is very labor intensive, involving not only multiple divers, but also rope tenders, EMS personnel, communications and safety personnel, and incident command staff. Training for FFD on-shift personnel has continued to focus on performing these vital support positions. In 2013, this training expanded to working with surrounding fire departments. Regular training for both divers and support personnel will be on-going in 2014.

Again in 2013, the Franklin Dive-Rescue Squad was deployed to respond on a real-world incident; this time to assist the Milwaukee Fire Department's dive team at a search and rescue operation involving a small airplane crash in Lake Michigan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Michael Sean Hays, Battalion Chief, Master Diver  
Shawn Ganser, Firefighter-Paramedic, Dive Team Coordinator



## Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)



The Franklin Fire Department continues to work cooperatively with other agencies throughout the county, region, and State as part of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). The purpose of MABAS is to increase the speed and efficiency of mutual aid responses for major incidents, and to improve interoperability of fire departments area wide. MABAS bylaws define common radio frequencies and common terminology, as well as minimum requirements for fire company personnel and apparatus. Participating departments agree to send pre-determined apparatus if requested by the stricken community. These assets are placed on a MABAS Box Alarm “card” which designates which units respond at a given alarm level. Typically, closer companies are designated to respond first, with resources from greater distances being called in as the alarm level escalates. MABAS agreements not only cover large fire alarm responses, but also may include technical rescue, mass casualty incidents, hazardous materials responses, and natural disasters. A larger incident may require inter-divisional “strike teams” to assemble and respond to an emergency in a MABAS division that may be several counties away. In 2013, FFD responded to numerous MABAS requests in neighboring communities, and on several occasions, relied on our MABAS partners from surrounding departments to assist with incidents within in the City of Franklin. Below is a sample of an FFD MABAS Box alarm card.

<b>DEPARTMENT NAME:</b> Franklin		<b>BOX ALARM TYPE:</b> Structure Fire		<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> December 9, 2011		<b>MABAS DIVISION</b> 107	
<b>BOX ALARM #</b> 2-11		<b>LOCATION OR AREA:</b> Franklin, both sides of 68th Street West to 124th Street		<b>AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:</b> <i>James Martins</i>			
<b>LOCAL DISPATCH AREA:</b>							
<b>ALARM LEVEL</b>	<b>ENGINES</b>	<b>TRUCKS</b>	<b>AMBULANCES</b>	<b>CHIEFS</b>	<b>SPECIAL EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>CHANGE OF QUARTERS to Franklin Fire Station #1</b>	
Still	Franklin Franklin	Franklin	Franklin ALS	Franklin			
Working Still	Hales Corners	Greendale	Tess Corners ALS	Greenfield Hales Corners Greendale	Greenfield RIT Request WE Energies	FFD Off Duty Call Back	
<b>MABAS BOX ALARM:</b>							
<b>ALARM LEVEL</b>	<b>ENGINES</b>	<b>TRUCKS</b>	<b>AMBULANCES</b>	<b>CHIEFS</b>	<b>SPECIAL EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>CHANGE OF QUARTERS to Franklin Fire Station # 1</b>	
BOX	Oak Creek Tess Corners	South Milwaukee	West Allis ALS	Oak Creek South Milwaukee	Hales Corners Utility 620 Milwaukee Fire Bell	Cudahy Engine St. Francis Truck Raymond Ambulance	
2ND	Cudahy New Berlin	St. Francis		Cudahy New Berlin	Wauwatosa RIT 128th ARW Air Compressor	West Allis Engine Caledonia Truck	
3RD	Raymond West Allis	Caledonia	Raymond BLS	St. Francis Wauwatosa	ARES	City of Brookfield Engine North Shore Truck	
4TH	City of Brookfield Wind Lake	North Shore		Raymond West Allis		Elm Grove Engine Town of Brookfield Ambulance	
5TH	Elm Grove Milwaukee	Milwaukee	Town of Brookfield ALS	North Shore Wind Lake		South Shore Engine	
<b>INTERDIVISIONAL REQUEST</b>		1st Choice 106	2nd Choice 102	3rd Choice 101			
<b>INFORMATION</b> FFD Station 1 is located at 8901 West Drexel Avenue. Nearest cross-streets are Hwy 36 and Drexel Avenue MABAS Knox Box is located at service door to garage area on north side of the station							



## **Major Incidents – 2013:**

The following is a brief overview of some of the major incidents that the Department responded to within the city of Franklin. In the majority of these incidents, Mutual Aid companies from other communities also responded to assist FFD:

**March 3, 8:60PM**

**6800 Blk. S. 27<sup>th</sup> St.**

Units were dispatched for the report smoke coming from the roof of a “big box” commercial structure. Truck 2 set up its aerial ladder and found one of the building’s HVAC units fully engulfed in fire. The fire was quickly brought under control with the help of fire companies from Greendale, Greenfield, Hales Corners, and Oak Creek. Damage was confined to the rooftop unit.

**April 19, 4:15 AM**

**5800 Blk. W. Franklin Dr.**

Fire Department units were dispatched for the report of flames showing inside an industrial building. First arriving units found smoke inside the building and an evacuation in progress. The fire was located in natural gas heater. Following extinguishment, crews shut off the gas supply line and ventilated the building.

**April 29, 10:05 AM**

**7400 Blk. S. 74<sup>th</sup> St.**

FFD responded for the report of smoke showing from a duplex. While responding, FFD personnel could see a visible column of smoke and upgraded the alarm level. Crews found and extinguished a large volume of exterior fire at the rear of the building, before entering to attack fire in the attic. Several neighboring departments provided assistance. Smoke, fire, and water damage to the affected unit was significant.

**May 9, 10:07 AM**

**8200 Blk. S. 51<sup>st</sup> St.**

Engine 3 and Battalion 2 were dispatched for the report a natural gas-type odor at the rear of the Franklin High School. Upon investigation, a strong chemical odor was found in the lower level. Total evacuation was ordered and the regional Hazardous Materials response team was requested from Milwaukee Fire Department. The cause was determined to be an toxic vapor produced while charging car batteries in the auto shop area. The building was ventilated extensively, and two employees were transported to the hospital for evaluation.

**June 8, 6:27 PM**

**9400 Blk. W. Loomis Rd.**

Engine 1 and Battalion 2 were dispatched for the report of a motor vehicle accident, car vs. building. Upon arrival, FFD found that a driver had lost control, backing through a wall and several feet into a residential building. The building was evacuated. The car was removed by tow truck, and the structure was shored to avoid collapse. No one was injured.

**June 20, 4:56 PM****7600 Blk. Mission Hills Dr.**

Fire units were again dispatched for a report a car striking a building. Upon arrival, crews found a driver had lost control and struck the corner of an attached garage at a high rate of speed. The driver was trapped in the vehicle, which had to be pulled from the garage by winch before the driver could be treated and extricated. The building was shored to prevent further collapse and the driver was transported to the hospital for further evaluation.

**June 28, 8:43 AM****8000 Blk. W. Beacon Hill Dr.**

FFD was dispatched for the report of a basement fire. Upon arrival, heavy smoke was showing from the multiple windows and the soffits. The alarm level was upgraded, bringing mutual aid assistance from Greendale, Greenfield, Hales Corners, Oak Creek, and Tess Corners. Initial attack crews confirmed that the heaviest fire was coming from the basement; however, fighting the fire proved difficult, as the fire had burned through the first floor, and access to the stairs was not possible. Eventually, crews were able to attack the seat of the fire by entering through lower-level windows. Damage to the structure was extensive.

**July 19, 12:45 AM****8700 Blk. S. 79<sup>th</sup> St.**

The on-duty battalion chief noticed smoke in the area while returning to quarters from a previous call. Upon investigation he found an unattached garage that was fully-involved with fire. He requested a fire alarm dispatch, and advised the occupants of the nearby house to evacuate. The fire was quickly brought under control, but could not be fully extinguished until arcing electrical wires could be disconnected. Damage to the garage was significant, but the nearby house was undamaged.

**October 9, 2:32 AM****9500 Blk. S. 27<sup>th</sup> St.**

The Fire Department was dispatched for a reported fire alarm sounding in a large multi-story extended-stay hotel. While en-route, FFD units were notified that there were reports of smoke in the structure. The alarm level was upgraded, bringing multiple mutual aid companies and several chief officers. Initial arriving crews confirmed that there was light smoke in the hallways, and that a large-scale evacuation was in progress. Crews performed a floor by floor search, and eventually traced the source of the smoke to a fire in a furnace motor that had filled the common areas with smoke through the building's HVAC duct system. The fire was out at the time. The system was shut down, the building was ventilated, and occupants were allowed to return.

**October 27, 7:11 PM****6800 Blk. S. Dory Dr.**

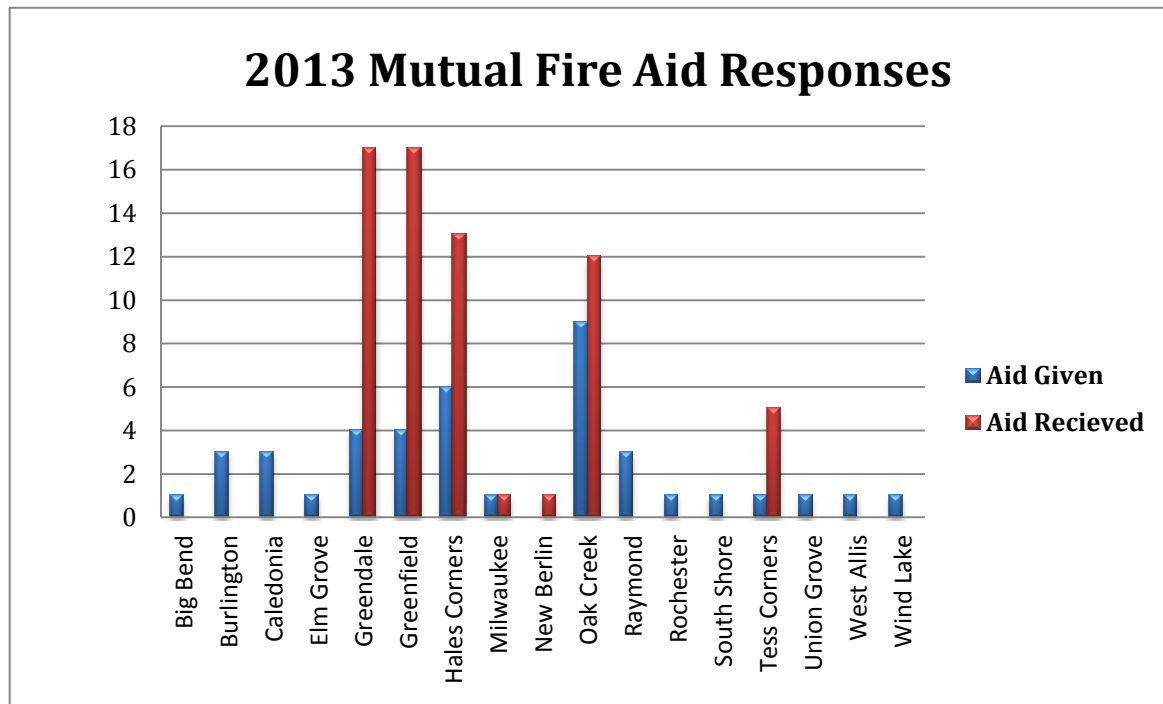
FFD was dispatched for a reported basement fire. Upon arrival, the house was fully involved, with fire showing from the basement and first floor. The alarm level was upgraded, bringing and mutual aid assistance from several neighboring departments. An exterior (defensive) fire attack was initiated in order to knock down the heavy fire volume, and to protect neighboring homes. The fire was eventually brought under control, but due to the potential for collapse, crews were not able to enter the structure to salvage belongings. The home and most of its contents were a total loss.

**November 26, 10:17 AM****S. 31<sup>st</sup> St. and W. Drexel Ave.**

FFD was dispatched for a car fire inside a parking structure. Due to the difficulty in accessing the structure, the alarm level was upgraded. Crews were able to locate the fully-involved vehicle through heavy smoke using thermal imaging cameras, and quickly extinguished the fire. The structure's automatic fire sprinkler system had activated, minimizing damage to adjacent vehicles.

**December 28, 2:45 PM****8900 Blk. S. 51<sup>st</sup> St.**

FFD was dispatched for a reported barn fire. Upon arrival, Chief 2 reported smoke showing from a large pole barn. The alarm level was upgraded. Engine 3's crew made a direct fire attack through an open overhead door, as Engine 2 established a water supply. The fire was quickly brought under control and damage to the building was confined to a workshop area. Several vehicles and pieces of heavy equipment were undamaged.





## **Major Incidents - Mutual Aid Provided, 2013**

Following is a brief summary of some of the major events that the Franklin Fire Department responded to in order to assist neighboring communities:

**January 1, 1:06 AM** **7300 Blk. W. National Ave., West Allis**  
Franklin Med 11 responded to West Allis Fire Station #1 for a change-of-quarters request on a MABAS Box Alarm. As West Allis and several other departments were fighting a structure fire, Med 11 responded to multiple EMS calls in the city.

**January 18, 8:21 PM** **6000 Blk. S. 116<sup>th</sup> St., Hales Corners**  
A Franklin Engine and Chief were requested for a structure fire in the Village of Hales Corners. Engine 1 and the FFD Assistant Chief assisted HCFD in extinguishing and overhauling a chimney fire.

**February 1, 3:20 AM** **700 Blk. Center St., Burlington**  
Franklin Truck 2 and Chief responded on an interdivisional MABAS request to relieve crews at the large Echo Lake Foods fire. Truck 2 was set up and operated as an elevated master stream. Truck 2 operated for several hours in sub-zero weather before being relieved. Over 80 fire departments from southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois were part of the multi-day effort to contain and extinguish the blaze.

**February 12, 1:36 PM** **7600 Blk. E. Wind Lake Rd., Wind Lake**  
Franklin Engine and Chief requested for a Working Still level alarm to the Village of Wind Lake. Upon arrival at the residential fire, Engine 1 and Battalion 2 were assigned to stand by as a Rapid Intervention Team. "RIT" crews are assigned at all structure fires, and are dedicated to rescue of fellow firefighters who may become lost or trapped in a fire or building collapse.

**February 23, 11:34 PM** **4200 Blk. Layton Ave., Greenfield**  
Franklin Engine 1 was requested for a structure fire in the City of Greenfield. The crew was assigned to standby as RIT team.

**March 5, 9:24 AM** **8900 Blk. S. 27<sup>th</sup> St., Oak Creek**  
Engine and Chief requested for a commercial structure fire in the City of Oak Creek. Engine 1 and the Acting Chief responded. Engine 1 crew was assigned to ladder the roof to ventilate the structure and check for fire extension.



**April 9, 3:12 PM****11800 Blk. Parkview Ln., Hales Corners**

FFD was dispatched for the report of a structure fire in the area of 116<sup>th</sup> and Belmar Drive (Franklin). Upon arrival, the structure was found to be on the Hales Corners side of the border. FFD crews assisted HCFD in forcing entry and extinguishing a fire in a storage building.

**June 13, 12:13 AM****8800 Blk. 3-Mile Rd., Raymond**

Engine 1, Battalion 2, and a Tender were requested for a MABAS Box Alarm for a working house fire in the Town of Raymond. The engine crew and Chief were assigned as Rapid Intervention Team.

**July 4, 9:33 PM****5700 Blk. S. New Berlin Rd., Hales Corners**

Franklin Med-11 was requested at the scene of the Village of Hales Corners' Fourth of July Celebration. A commercial firework had exploded in the launch tube on the ground, badly injuring a worker. Hales Corners Fire Department personnel, along with Franklin paramedics Fred Rinke and Keith Nickels, acted quickly to stabilize, treat, and transport the patient to the trauma center. They were recognized for their life-saving actions by receiving a "Teamwork/Courage Under Fire" award from Aurora Healthcare.

**July 13, 8:54 PM****700 Blk. Durand Dr., Big Bend**

FFD Engine 1 and Assistant Chief responded on a MABAS box alarm to the Village of Big Bend. Crews assisted in extinguishment and overhaul of a residential structure fire.

**July 27, 5:38 PM****2400 Blk. Lincoln Memorial Dr., Milwaukee**

FFD Dive Squad was requested by Milwaukee Fire Department at the scene of a small plane crash into Lake Michigan. FFD divers Shawn Ganser and Dillon Gavinski responded and assisted with MFD's search and rescue operations.

**August 2, 6:35 AM****5700 Blk. Mockingbird Ln., Greendale**

Franklin Engine 1 and Battalion 2 responded to a working still-level alarm assignment to Greendale for a reported kitchen fire in a senior assisted living center. FFD personnel were assigned to access the roof of the structure to check for fire extension.

**August 14, 6:46 PM****31000 Blk. Academy Rd., Rochester**

Franklin Engine 1 and Battalion 2 responded for a Change of Quarters assignment to cover the Village of Rochester while several Racine County departments were fighting a structure fire. While in quarters in Rochester, Engine 1 responded to a fire investigation in the Town of Spring Prairie.

**September 1, 11:01PM****9000 Blk. S. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Oak Creek**

Franklin Engine 1 and Battalion 2 responded as part of a working still-level assignment to the City of Oak Creek. FFD personnel assisted with salvage and overhaul at the scene of a residential structure fire.

**October 20, 4:26 AM****4100 Blk. Walsh Rd., Caledonia**

Tender 1 responded on a working still-level alarm to the Village of Caledonia. Tender 2 assisted in establishing a water supply at a structure fire in an area of the village with no fire hydrants.

**December 8, 10:27 AM****Hwy 20 and Interstate 94, Sturtevant**

Engine 3 responded to assist the South Shore Fire Department at the scene of a multi-vehicle accident in the Village of Sturtevant. Engine 3 assisted in removing multiple persons from their vehicles at two separate incidents on the interstate. A snow storm had caused several simultaneous accidents throughout the region.



**Above:** FFD Engines 1 and 3 – both **KME Panthers** – staged at a training site.



## **Bureau of Fire Prevention:**

### **Fire Safety Education**

The Franklin Fire Department continues to provide fire prevention education in all elementary schools, both public and private, within the City. The educational materials that are distributed during these events are paid for through local donations.

As in years past, the Kindergarten classes and many pre-school classes were taught the *Firefighter is Your Friend* program. The FYF program is designed to develop a positive relationship with an age group of children that tend to try to “hide” from fire and from firefighters that may be searching for them. Firefighters visit the classrooms to familiarize children to the protective gear and breathing apparatus that firefighters wear, and to emphasize the importance of not hiding, and that firefighters are there to help.

FFD also worked with all Second Grade classes on home evacuation drills, utilizing the Survive Alive trailer. At this grade level, the “*Stay Low and Go*” and “*Know Two Ways Out*” programs are emphasized, and children are encouraged to work with their families to create and practice fire exit drills for their home.

FFD personnel also participated in National Night Out, showing off the Department’s 102-foot ladder truck and handing out fire education materials. The Survive Alive Trailer also proved to be a popular attraction, and families were encouraged to go through the training together. With various age groups present, firefighters emphasized the importance of having working smoke detectors, having a family escape plan for their house, and to call 9-1-1 once out of the home.

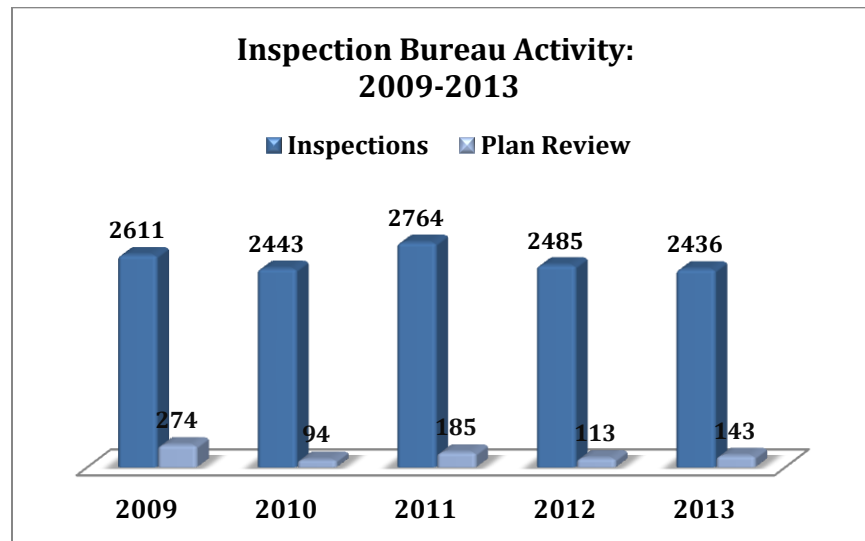
On May 18<sup>th</sup>, FFD was able to bring back the popular “Safety Day” event. The event was largely paid for through donations and sponsorship by local corporations and other organizations. Many of these sponsors had booths at the event and distributed health and safety information. Families could view fire trucks and a variety of apparatus from FFD as well as several neighboring departments. A Flight for Life helicopter also landed and was on display.

### **Fire Inspection**

The Inspection Bureau of the Franklin Fire Department performs approximately 2500 fire inspections per year. All multi-family residential, commercial, and public occupancies must be inspected twice per year, per state law. Completion of these inspections allows the Department to participate in the state “2% Dues” program which directs a portion of all property insurance premiums back to local fire departments to encourage and fund fire prevention activities. The City currently receives approximately \$120,000 annually through the “2% dues” program.



The Department also performs over one hundred plan reviews for fire alarm and suppression systems in all new construction, change of use, and/or remodeling of existing structures. The Inspection Bureau must also perform several on-site inspections of these systems during the course of new construction and/or remodeling of existing structures. For large developments, the time required to perform these reviews and inspections is considerable.



### **Bureau of Vehicle Maintenance:**

The Fire Department's Bureau of Maintenance is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all department vehicles. The Department currently has 20 vehicles to maintain. These range from a 1934 Pirsch engine, which is strictly a vintage showpiece, to our newest piece, which is a 2013 Ford F-450 McCoy-Miller Type I Ambulance. The maintenance and upkeep of the Department's vehicles are tasks that require constant vigilance. Without reliable equipment, the Department cannot provide immediate and reliable service.

All of the Fire Department's front-line pumpers are currently in good shape; however, there were some major repairs needed to keep them in serviceable and reliable condition. Engine 3 needed its pump replaced due to an unanticipated mechanical failure. The pump replacement was an extensive, prolonged repair, and cost nearly \$30,000. Beginning in 2014, the Department will be sending each pumper and truck for an annual WI Department of Transportation safety inspection and certification by a certified EVT (Emergency Vehicle Technician).

The department's ambulances also required several substantial repairs during the year. Unit 22106 (currently deployed as Med 282) required multiple, significant repairs to



correct mechanical problems. Several fire departments have reported ongoing problems with the particular diesel engine that was standard in this ambulance. However, as this vehicle is several years old, and has approximately 100,000 miles on it, repair costs were not covered under manufacturer warranty. Many needed repairs of 22101 (currently serving as the back-up ambulance) were deferred due to the anticipation of this vehicle being replaced in the near future.

Car 220 (which carries the Department's dive and ice rescue equipment) has reached the end of its serviceable life as an emergency response vehicle and needs to be replaced. The new vehicle that replaces car 220 will then become the command vehicle for the officer in charge of the daily shift. The current command vehicle will then be rotated into service as the dive-rescue and east-side officer/paramedic first response vehicle. This system of rotating vehicles allows the Department to extend the useful service life of vehicles before they become unsafe for front-line, daily emergency responses. The new command vehicle has been approved for the 2014 budget.

The Fire Department was scheduled to take delivery of a new McCoy-Miller Ambulance in 2013. Due to the ambulance company being sold and the plant relocated there was a significant delay in the production and delivery of the vehicle which was delayed until early 2014.

There are currently six vehicles that are at or past their anticipated replacement date. Unit 207, which is a grass fire unit that was custom-built by Department personnel, is still serviceable and able to perform its primary function as an off-road grass/brush fire unit. Car 220 (which is being rotated out of use as the dive-rescue response vehicle) is not in good enough shape to be an emergency response vehicle and will be regulated to a staff vehicle when the current command vehicle is placed in service in 2014. Cars #222, 226 and 227 are all staff vehicles that were acquired at no cost from the Police Department and are used for fire inspections, and for transportation to trainings, classes, and conferences. The Department intends to reduce the number of staff cars in the fleet, but will also consider replacing them if vehicles that are in good condition become available from the Police Department.

Unit #22101 (which is a 2001 ambulance that is currently assigned as a back-up unit) is in very poor condition and will be replaced with the delivery of the new ambulance early in 2014.

The Fire Department replaces ambulances on a rotating basis, before they become unreliable for front-line service. With the ever-increasing EMS call volume, as well as the large geographic area covered by FFD ambulances, it is more important now than ever to have dependable front line ambulances, as well as a reliable backup unit for those times





when multiple runs are happening at the same time (during which off-duty personnel respond to the station to staff a back-up unit) or when an ambulance is out of service for maintenance. In the current rotation system, the Department plans for budgeting for and purchasing a new ambulance purchase every two years. This leaves an ambulance as a front line unit for ten years and as a backup unit for two years, for a total of a 12-year life span. The ambulance replacement and rotation process will need to be evaluated in the near future, with consideration to given to purchasing ambulances more frequently. With the added call volume as well as additional duties there are more miles being put on ambulances. The Department currently has two ambulances with over 100,000 miles. It should also be noted that trade magazines recommend multiplying actual odometer mileage by a factor of three in order to determine the true wear on ambulances and other emergency vehicles due to the excessive amount of idling time and hard driving that they endure.

Lieutenant of Equipment Richard Bastien continues to perform the majority of apparatus maintenance, and repairs. FFD also continues to rely extensively on Franklin Department of Public Works (DPW) mechanics - primarily for routine maintenance such as oil changes, scheduled repairs, and major repairs that are beyond the limitations of the Fire Department's Lieutenant of Equipment. New ambulances and fire apparatus are rapidly becoming more technologically and mechanically sophisticated. Moreover, new fuel efficiency and pollution control systems are increasingly controlled by on-board computer systems. With the added complexity of this equipment, more specific and specialized technical knowledge is often required to perform both maintenance and repairs. The Department has increasingly had to rely on third party contractors who are certified EVTs and factory authorized repair centers to perform these services.

The ability of Lt. Bastien and the DPW mechanics to perform this work has saved the Fire Department an extraordinary amount of time, money, vehicle down time, and future problems. However, Lt. Bastien is also a firefighter/EMT; and is assigned (as all firefighting staff) to a 24 hour rotating shift. Maintenance duties therefore frequently take a back seat to higher priority obligations, such as emergency calls, fire and EMS training, and public education events and appearances.

The goal of the Bureau of Maintenance is to ensure that all of the Department's vehicles are safe and reliable to operate – for the sake of our employees, our patients and customers, and the general public with whom we share the road. Performing all of the vehicle repair and maintenance work necessary in order to guarantee a rapid, safe, and reliable emergency response is no longer sustainable using an on-shift employee with primary duties of providing fire and EMS services. The need for a dedicated mechanic on a regular





40-hr/week schedule - or the expanded use of third party factory-certified repair centers - needs to be addressed in the immediate future.

In total, the operating budget lines related to vehicle maintenance parts and services was significantly over budget. This overage was due to the replacement of Engine 3's pump.

### Franklin Fire Department Vehicle Fleet Inventory – 2013:

ID#	Years of Service	Year and Type of Vehicle	Make/Model	Condition	Anticipated Replacement	2013 Maintenance costs
200	9	2005 Car	Chevy Trail Blazer	Good	2014	474.20
201	N/A	1934 - Pumper	Ford / Pirsch	Show piece only	None	0.00
203	7	2007 - Pumper	KME Predator	Very Good	2027	2896.23
204	12	2002 - Pumper	KME Panther	Good	2022	33341.79
206	15	1999 – Pumper	Pierce / Freightliner	Good	2019	1460.01
207	17	1996 – Brush	Ford	Good	2011	994.77
208	13	2000 - Ladder	KME AerialCat	Good	2025	1421.46
220	15	1999 - PFR	Chevy Suburban	Poor	2009	144.48
221	10	2004 – command	GMC Sierra	Good	2019	588.06
222	6	2008 - Car	Chevy Tahoe	Good	2014	550.53
225	10	2004- Inspector	Chevy Silverado	Very Good	2017	118.76
226	7	2007 car	Ford Crown Victoria	Good	2014	432.87
227	16	1998 car	Ford Crown Victoria	Fair	2013	0.00
22101	13	2001 -Ambulance	Ford / McCoy Miller	Poor	2013	394.01
22103	10	2003- Ambulance	Ford / McCoy Miller	Fair	2015	4494.60
22106	8	2006 -Ambulance	Ford / McCoy Miller	Good	2016	6280.98
22108	5	2008 -Ambulance	Ford / McCoy Miller	Good	2018	1450.45
22109	4	2009 -Ambulance	Ford / Med Tec	Very Good	2020	240.43
22112	2	2012 -Ambulance	Ford / Med Tec	Very Good	2024	130.10
295	10	2005 Tender	Peterbilt/U.S. Tanker	Excellent	2029	121.76



## **BUILDING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:**

Franklin Fire Department operates three stations that provide high quality Fire and EMS services to the citizens and visitors of the city. To Franklin firefighters, these fire stations are “home” for one third of their life. Like any homeowner, we take pride in the appearance of our fire stations and grounds, and strive to blend into and enhance our neighborhoods. As with any building, annual and routine maintenance is completed to reduce costs and to extend the life of our equipment and the building itself. For the past several years, the members of this department have handled most of routine maintenance, including lawn care, plumbing and electrical repairs, and servicing of generators and other equipment and systems.

### **Fire Station One (8901 W. Drexel Avenue)**

This station houses the most employees and equipment. Daily staffing includes five duty personnel on a 24 hour shift schedule. Monday through Friday there are also four full time administrative employees (Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Fire Marshal, and Secretary) that work a 40 hour work week. A part-time inspector working 18 hours per week is also stationed here. Equipment includes Engine 1 which is equipped with extrication and heavy rescue equipment, Med 11, Ambulance 1, Battalion 2 (shift commander), a water tender/tanker, and several staff cars that are kept outside when not in use. The original station was built in 1980 and was staffed only during daytime hours, with Paid-On-Call staff, responding from home on during nights and weekends. In 1989 The Franklin Fire Department became a career department (staffed 24 hours/7days per week), which required remodeling of the station to include sleeping quarters and a kitchen/dining area. A second addition to the station was completed in 1996 which increased apparatus bay space and added space to be used as a training room.

The programmable digital fire safety sign (shown on the cover page of this report) was installed in the spring of 2013. The sign was largely paid for through donations, including a sizeable contribution from the **Franklin Noon Lions Club**.

In late 2012, FFD also entered a “Rescue Remodel” kitchen makeover contest sponsored by IKEA and Family Handyman magazine. Despite receiving over 50,000 votes in the on-line contest, FFD placed second. Even though FFD did not win, the contest brought to light the urgent need for the kitchen to be remodeled. The old kitchen was installed over 25 years ago and had been cheaply constructed. The cabinets were falling apart, making the kitchen essentially non-functional.

Shortly after the contest was over, John Hoppe of **Hoppe Woodworks** approached the Fire Department and offered to build and donate custom hardwood cabinets. He is long time resident of Franklin, with his business located on 27<sup>th</sup> Street. Hoppe helped to design an



updated kitchen that would be more functional. With the help of his crew, he built beautiful cabinets with high-end hardware that will last a long time. The Department requested and received Common Council approval to reallocate capital funding intended for bathroom repair/remodel for use in the kitchen remodel project, as the donated goods and services will ultimately lead to significant savings for Franklin Taxpayers. Demolition of the old fixtures and structural repairs began in late 2013, and most of the construction and installation of the new kitchen cabinets and fixtures will extend well into 2014.

Station One is still in need of other major changes and additions. The inspection department has outgrown its current office and records storage space and needs to be enlarged to handle their increasing workload. Because of healthcare privacy laws, additional secured medical record storage space is also needed. Dormitory bathroom areas are in need of remodeling in order to address privacy concerns and compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The apparatus bay needs additional turnout gear lockers and resurfacing of the bay floor. While the North overhead doors and their opening mechanisms have recently been replaced, the rear (South) garage door openers (which are the original units from 1980, and are nearing the end of their serviceability) need to be replaced in the near future.

The storage garage and hose tower roofs were replaced in the fall of 2013. Fire Station #1's apparatus bay roof was scheduled for major repair/replacement in 2013. This project was combined with a City Hall roof replacement project and postponed until 2014, and only minor emergency repairs were made in 2013.

#### **Fire Station Two (9911 S. 60<sup>th</sup> Street)**

This station houses two duty personnel on a 24 hour schedule. The station was built in 2002. Equipment includes Med 282, Truck 2, Engine 2, the brush fire response vehicle, and the Survive-Alive trailer. At this time, the station is in good condition and requires only routine maintenance.

#### **Fire Station Three (4755 W. Drexel Avenue)**

This station houses four duty personnel on a 24 hour schedule. The station was built in 2009. Equipment includes Med 283, Ambulance 3, Engine 3, Ambulance 4 (reserve/backup) and Car 3 (Car 3 is a utility vehicle currently utilized as the Dive Rescue Response Vehicle). At this time, this station is in good condition and requires only routine maintenance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Michael Sean Hays, Battalion Chief